

AmeriCorps Grants Help Communities throughout Milwaukee

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee) announced \$6.9 million in AmeriCorps grants for Milwaukee that will help bolster after-school programs, teacher training and housing construction.

Congresswoman Moore said, **“These grants help us meet President Obama’s vision that every American can serve.□□□ And if every volunteer’s experience is like mine – you’ll get more out of it, than you’ve given.”**

Congresswoman Moore served as a VISTA volunteer between 1981-1983, during which time she spearheaded the start-up of a community credit union in Milwaukee and earned the national “VISTA Volunteer of the Decade” award from 1976-1986. VISTA is now part of AmeriCorps.

The grants announced today are:

- The YMCA of Metro Milwaukee: \$217,600 to support 22 AmeriCorps members to provide structured after-school activities for youth between 3:00-7:00pm when adult supervision may be absent. Last year the YMCA served 5,230 youth.
- The Mount Mary College Urban Education Fellows Program: \$43,200 for 54 AmeriCorps members who will serve as teachers and mentors in grades K-12, working to increase educational achievement and volunteer recruitment at high poverty, urban schools in Wisconsin.
- The Milwaukee Teacher Education Center: \$140,000 to support 175 AmeriCorps members who will introduce and strengthen service-learning projects in the Milwaukee Public Schools System. Service-learning is a teaching method that combines academic instruction with community service.
- Milwaukee Christian Center’s YouthBuild: \$169,650 to support 25 AmeriCorps members who will build and rehabilitate low-income housing; restore hiking trails along the banks of the Kinnikinnick River, and get training to assist in disaster recovery.
- Public Allies: Two grants for \$6,331,000 will support 487 AmeriCorps members across the

country, and the second for \$62,500 will support 25 members to be front-line human service field workers. Public Allies is a national AmeriCorps program based in Milwaukee that places diverse youth, ages 18-30, as AmeriCorps members in community and faith-based organizations where they serve four days each week for ten months on projects that create, improve, or expand services with measurable results.

Congresswoman Moore continued, **“My volunteer experience changed my life and put me on the path to a lifetime of public service.”**

###